

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 28, line 22 through page 29, line 27, please delete the paragraph and substitute therefore:

[0066]

Example 21. Asymmetric Hydrogenation Reaction Using a Cross-linked Ir-Pt Cluster Composition

The cross-linked Ir-Pt cluster composition obtained in Example 11 (10.0 mg), methyl benzoyl formate (164.2 mg, 1.0 mmole), (-) cinchonidine (3.8 mg, 0.013 mmole) and toluene (5 ml) were mixed in an autoclave and agitated for five hours at room temperature in a hydrogen atmosphere at a pressure of 50 atmospheres. The cross linked [[Ir]] Ir-Pt cluster composition was removed by filtration after the reaction. The filtrate was concentrated, and the residue was purified using PTLC to obtain (R)-methyl mandelate (125 mg, 75% yield). The asymmetric yield was 52%ee.

[0067]

Example 22. Asymmetric Hydrogenation Reaction Using a Crosslinked Ir-Au Cluster Composition

The cross-linked Ir-Au cluster composition obtained in Example 12 (10.0 mg), methyl benzoyl formate (164.2 mg, 1.0 mmole), (-) cinchonidine (3.8 mg, 0.013 mmole) and toluene (5 ml) were mixed in an autoclave and agitated for five hours at room temperature in a hydrogen atmosphere at a pressure of 50 atmospheres. The cross linked[[Ir]] Ir-Au cluster composition was removed by filtration after the reaction. The filtrate was concentrated, and the residue was purified using PTLC to obtain (R)-methyl mandelate (160.5 mg, 96.5% yield). The asymmetric yield was 52.9%ee.

[0068]

Example 23. Asymmetric Hydrogenation Reaction Using a Cross-linked Ir-Pt Cluster Composition

The cross-linked Ir-Pt cluster composition obtained in Example 13 (20.2 mg), methyl benzoyl formate (164.2 mg, 1.0 mmole), (-) cinchonidine (3.8 mg, 0.013 mmole) and toluene (5 ml) were mixed in an autoclave and agitated for five hours at room temperature in a hydrogen atmosphere at a pressure of 50 atmospheres. The cross linked [[Ir]] Ir-Pt cluster composition was removed by filtration after the reaction. The filtrate was concentrated, and the residue was purified using PTLC to obtain (R)-methyl mandelate (165.6 mg, 99.7% yield). The asymmetric yield was 62.6%ee.

Page 32, lines 3 through 11, please delete the paragraph and substitute therefore:

[0075]

Comparative Example 2. Asymmetric Hydrogenation Reaction Using Iridium Carbon

Five percent Ir/C (38.4 mg, 0.01 mmole), methyl benzoyl formate (164.2 mg, 1.0 mmole), ϕ cinchonidine (3.8 mg, 0.013 mmole) and toluene (5 ml) were mixed in an autoclave and were agitated for five hours at room temperature under hydrogen at a pressure of 50 atmospheres. The crosslinked [[Ir]] Ir/C cluster composition was removed by filtration after the reaction. The filtrate was concentrated, and the residue was purified using PTLC to obtain (R)-methyl mandelate (145.4 mg, 87.5% yield). The asymmetric yield was 2.0%ee.